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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/489,730	01/21/2000	Robert C. Hartman JR.	STL000022US1	6187

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EDELL, SHAPIRO, FINNAN & LYTLE, LLC
1901 RESEARCH BOULEVARD
SUITE 400
ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

EXAMINER
PHAM, HUNG Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	2 ɔ

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _23 January 2004_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-45_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-45_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _24_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the

fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an

Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the

fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has

been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 01/23/2004

has been entered.

Information Disclosure Statement

2.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 01/23/2004 was

filed after the filing of the Request for Continued Examination on 01/23/2004 and before

the mailing of the first Office action. The submission is in compliance with the

provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being

considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4.   **Claims 1-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over The McGraw-Hill Companies (McGraw-Hill) [Build a Book

Online, http://web.archive.org/web/19980513002459/http://mhhe.com/primis/ and

http://www.mhhe.com/primis/catalog/pcatalog/primisweb.ppt] in view of Rowe et

al. [USP 6,073,148].

Regarding to claims 1, 16 and 31, McGraw-Hill teaches a structure for storing a

customized e-book online as *a content object capable of being produced by a processing*

system and having a plurality of content entities. As shown in page 10 as an example, a

user could select a plurality of predefined sections under a chapter of a selected book to

compile into a complimentary custom book in PDF format. As shown in page 19 is *an*

identifier file object containing a list of selected sections and chapters by a user as

content entity identifiers defining the content of the content object, wherein the arrangement

of the content entity identifiers within the list corresponds to a content object hierarchical

structure including a chapter as *at least one hierarchical tier and* the section of that

chapter as *at least one subordinate tier, wherein the content entity identifiers are determined*

by the processing system and placed in the list in response to a user selection of content

entities for the content object. Returning to page 19, a user could reorder the content if

necessary by clicking the arrow buttons that correspond to the sections. Thus, *the*

presence and position of content entity identifiers within said list are modifiable by the user to

alter content and arrangement of the content object without manipulating the content entities

identified by said content entity identifiers. McGraw-Hill does not explicitly teach the *a*

plurality of content file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list, wherein the content entity identifiers each include identification information identifying the content file object containing the content entity associated with that identifier. Rowe teaches an apparatus for organizing a PDF file. As disclosed by Rowe, object types used in a typical PDF file include page objects, page contents objects including text, words and graphical objects (Rowe, Col. 7, Lines 30-40). As shown in FIG. 2a, view 45 is a table of contents or bookmark view (Rowe, Col. 7, Lines 65-66) that allows a user to select and display a particular portion of the document that the user has specifically marked and labeled with text, graphics. For example, different chapter headings can be displayed as labels in bookmark so that when the user selects a chapter, the first page of that chapter is displayed in view window 39 (Rowe, Col. 8, Lines 6-13). Rowe further discloses an object typically includes an object ID to identify the object within the document (Rowe, Col. 12, Lines 52-55). As disclosed by McGraw-Hill, each chapter of a complimentary custom book as in McGraw-Hill page 19 associates with a number of pages, and as disclosed by Rowe, each page object is *a content file object containing* page content objects including text, words or graphical objects as *content entity and identified by* chapter name as *content entity identifier contained in the list*, wherein the chapters as *the content entity identifiers each include identification information identifying* the page objects as *the content file object containing* page content object as *the content entity associated with that identifier*. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to modify the McGraw-Hill technique by using the page objects and page content

objects for the pages associated with a chapter in order to customize an e-book.

Regarding to claims 8, 23 and 38, McGraw-Hill teaches a structure for storing a

customized e-book online as *a content object capable of being produced by a processing*

system and having a plurality of content entities. As shown in page 10 as an example, a

user could select a plurality of predefined sections under a chapter of a selected book to

compile into a complimentary custom book in PDF format. As shown in page 19 is *an*

identifier file object containing an outline of chapters *as containers and* a list of selected

sections by a user as *content entity identifiers defining the content and corresponding to a*

hierarchical structure of the content object, wherein each chapter as *container represents a*

hierarchical structure tier and includes at least one section *as content entity identifier*

forming a subordinate hierarchical tier, and wherein the content entity identifier are

determined by the processing system and placed in the outline in response to user selection of

content entities for the content object. Returning to page 19, a user could reorder the

content if necessary by clicking the arrow buttons that correspond to the sections. Thus,

the presence and position of containers and individual content entity identifiers within said

outline are modifiable by the user to alter content and structure of the content object without

manipulating the content entities identified by said content entity identifiers. McGraw-Hill

does not explicitly teach the *a plurality of content file objects, each containing a content*

entity contained in said outline, wherein the content entity identifiers each include

identification information identifying the content file object containing the content entity

associated with that identifier. Rowe teaches an apparatus for organizing a PDF file. As disclosed by Rowe, object types used in a typical PDF file include page objects, page contents objects including text, words and graphical objects (Rowe, Col. 7, Lines 30-40). As shown in FIG. 2a, view 45 is a table of contents or bookmark view (Rowe, Col. 7, Lines 65-66) that allows a user to select and display a particular portion of the document that the user has specifically marked and labeled with text, graphics. For example, different chapter headings can be displayed as labels in bookmark so that when the user selects a chapter, the first page of that chapter is displayed in view window 39 (Rowe, Col. 8, Lines 6-13). Rowe further discloses an object typically includes an object ID to identify the object within the document (Rowe, Col. 12, Lines 52-55). As disclosed by McGraw-Hill, each chapter of a complimentary custom book as in McGraw-Hill page 19 associates with a number of pages, and as disclosed by Rowe, each page object is *a content file object containing* page content objects including text, words or graphical objects as *content entity and identified by* section name as *content entity identifier contained in the list*, wherein the sections as *the content entity identifiers each include identification information identifying* the page objects as *the content file object containing* page content object as *the content entity associated with that identifier*. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the McGraw-Hill technique by using the page objects and page content objects for the pages associated with a chapter in order to customize an e-book.

Regarding to claims 2, 9, 32 and 39, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 8, 31 and 38, Rowe further discloses *an attribute file object containing at least one attribute pertaining to the content object* (Rowe, Col. 9, Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claims 3, 10, 33 and 40, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 8, 31 and 38, Rowe further discloses *at least one attribute is extracted from the content object* (Rowe, Col. 9, Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claims 4, 11, 34 and 41, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 8, 31 and 38, Rowe further discloses *ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the content object, and said file structure further comprises one or more associated component file objects* (Rowe, Col. 9, Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claims 5, 12, 35 and 42, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 8, 31 and 38, McGraw-Hill further discloses *the content object is one of a book, a collection of images, an album, and a video* (McGraw-Hill, page 1).

Regarding to claims 6, 14, 36 and 44, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1, 8, 31 and 38, McGraw-Hill further

discloses *the content object is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes,*

chapters and sections (pages 1 and 19).

Regarding to claims 7 and 15, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed

subject matters as discussed in claims 4 and 11, Rowe further discloses *at least one of*

the associated components comprises an image (Rowe, Col. 7, Lines 30-35).

Regarding to claims 13, 28 and 43, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the

claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 8, 23 and 38, McGraw-Hill further

discloses *the content object is a book and the containers are one or more of a book, a volume,*

and a chapter (pages 1 and 19).

Regarding to claim 17, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject

matters as discussed in claim 16, Rowe further discloses the step of *storing at least one*

attribute pertaining to the work in an attribute file object (Rowe, Col. 9, Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claim 18, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject

matters as discussed in claim 16, Rowe further discloses *at least one attribute is extracted*

from the work (Rowe, Col. 9, Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claim 19, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject

matters as discussed in claim 16, Rowe further discloses *ones of the content entities*

further comprise components associated with the work, and further comprising the step of

storing the components in one or more associated component file objects (Rowe, Col. 9,

Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claim 20, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject

matters as discussed in claim 16, McGraw-Hill further discloses *the work is one of a book,*

a collection of images, an album, and a video (pages 1 and 19).

Regarding to claims 21 and 29, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed

subject matters as discussed in claims 16 and 23, McGraw-Hill further discloses *the*

work is a book and ones of the content entities are one of volumes, chapters and sections

(pages 1 and 19).

Regarding to claims 22 and 45, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed

subject matters as discussed in claims 19 and 41, Rowe further discloses *at least one of*

the associated components comprises one of an image, a video segment and an audio segment

(Rowe, Col. 7, Lines 30-35).

Regarding to claim 24, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject

matters as discussed in claim 23, Rowe further discloses *storing at least one attribute*

pertaining to the work within an attribute file object (Rowe, Col. 9, Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claim 25, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 23, Rowe further discloses *at least one attribute is extracted from the work* (Rowe, Col. 9, Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claim 26, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 23, Rowe further discloses *ones of the content entities further comprise components associated with the work, and storing the components in one or more associated component file objects* (Rowe, Col. 9, Lines 14-44).

Regarding to claim 27, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 23, McGraw-Hill further discloses *the work is one of a book, a collection of images, an album, and a video* (pages 1 and 19).

Regarding to claims 30 and 37, McGraw-Hill and Rowe teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 26 and 34, Rowe further discloses *at least one of the associated components comprises one of an image, a video segment and an audio segment* (Rowe, Col. 7, Lines 30-35).

Conclusion

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG Q PHAM whose telephone number is 703-605-4242. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN E BREENE can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner Hung Pham
May 4, 2004

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER